



Screech Owl Knives

SRT ON THE CUTTING EDGE

STORY BY JOSHUA SWANAGON
PHOTOS BY SCREECH OWL KNIVES



Proving that desire and research can bring a dream to realization, Daniel Pica of Screech Owl Knives has made a career of making high quality knives with amazing appeal in the small town of Pittsboro, NC.

With clean lines, striking color combinations and eye catching handle scale materials, Screech Owl Knives creates knives that beg to be used, but could easily make their place in any high-end collection.

1 Form and Function

Pica found his love of knives as a lifelong hunter and outdoorsman, but it was the custom knife his uncle gave him for his college graduation that showed him that they could be art as well.

2 The Challenges

I'm sure most makers would agree that keeping the shop clean is a never-ending struggle, but with Pica he also struggles with keeping certain materials on hand to keep waiting periods at a minimum.

3 Purpose Built

Each design has a specific function in mind because he believes that even though a knife can be art, it is ultimately a tool.

4 Finding Inspiration

With a love for traditional Scandinavian knives, Pica also draws his inspiration from the simple design philosophy of Bob Loveless, the versatility of the Jones Brothers, the creativity of Walter Brend and the passion of Mike Snody.

5 Material Preference

Due to its ability to polish easily, hold a good edge and resist corrosion, Pica chooses CPM154

stainless steel for his hunting and utility knives. For their toughness, he utilizes tool steels such as CPM 3V, A2 and 01 for his bushcraft and survival blades. His knives are set off by the durable and beautiful scale materials such as Desert Ironwood, Carbon Fiber and Bog Oak.


6 Favorite Design

Although not his most popular design, Pica prefers his Thicket Buster. It is a typical bushcraft style knife, with a Scandi grind.

7 The Process

Pica mostly employs the stock removal process when creating his knives, but he has plans to start offering more forged work in the future. With 10 models in his catalog, he also does custom work for those wanting it.

8 Ordering

Because of Pica's full production schedule, the typical waiting period for one of his knives is 3-8 months, depending on the style of knife and the materials incorporated into the design. He is also willing to customize his designs based on customer requests. A small deposit is required to begin work. 

Website:

www.ScreechOwlKnives.com